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Labor Market Digest, November 1992

Maine Bureau of Employment Security

Maine Division of Manpower Research

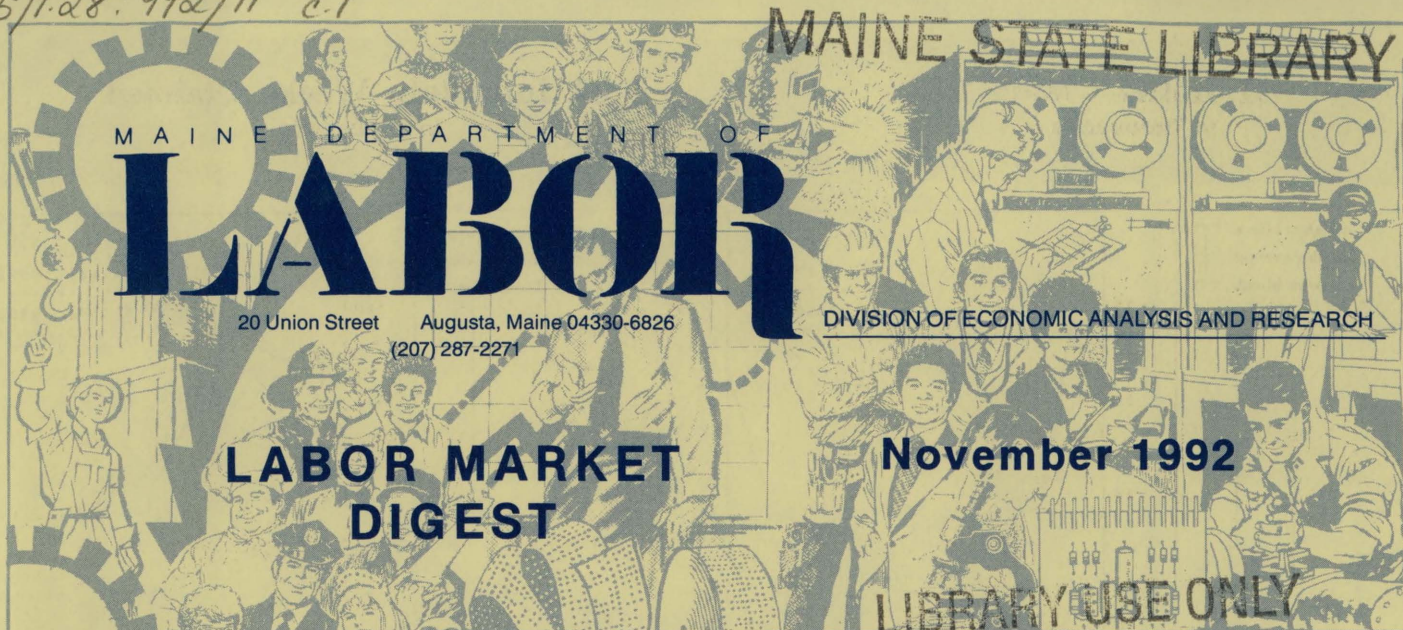
Maine Labor Market Research

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The Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

Year-End Employment Review

Maine's labor market stabilized in 1992, after two years of persistent and widespread job losses, dislocation, and uncertainty. After some employment declines early in 1992, activity began to pick up. The slow increase in employment recorded during the latter part of 1992 is expected to continue in 1993. Declining defense expenditures and slow gains in construction activity are anticipated to play roles in holding down the speed of the recovery.

Civilian Labor Force*

The civilian labor force grew by 8,000 to an average of 655,400 between 1991 and 1992. Resident employment was up 11,400 and unemployment down 3,400 over the year, resulting in a decline in the average unemployment rate from 7.6 percent in 1991 to 7.0 percent in 1992. Employment gains were due to an increase in the number of self-employed, as wage and salary jobs remained difficult to find.

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment*

Nonfarm wage and salary employment declined slightly from an average of 513,400 in 1991 to 512,900 in 1992. The loss of 500 jobs was small compared to declines of 6,600 in 1990 and 21,800 in 1991. This marked the first period on record that nonfarm employment declined three straight years.

Goods-Producing Sector

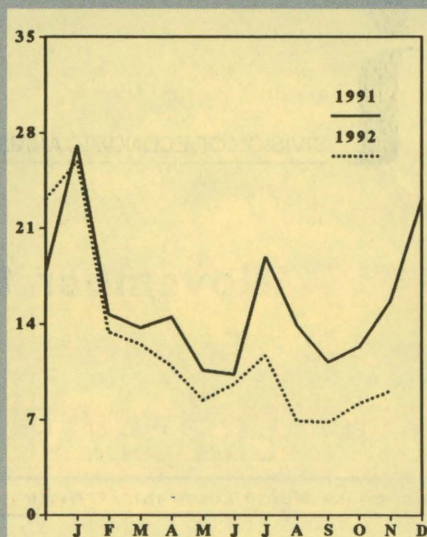
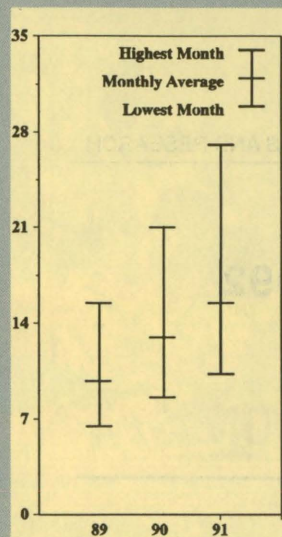
Most of the nonfarm jobs lost were in the goods-producing sector of the economy. Goods-producing employment fell 2.0 percent, from an average of 118,100 in 1991 to 115,800 in 1992. Since 1988, 25,700 goods-producing jobs have been lost.

Construction — The number of construction jobs fell by 1,400 over the year. The industry continued to be hurt by an inventory overhang, stricter lending standards, declining residential and commercial values, and demographic trends. Employment was down 900 in building construction and 500 in special trade contracting. Heavy construction employment was unchanged from the 1991 level.

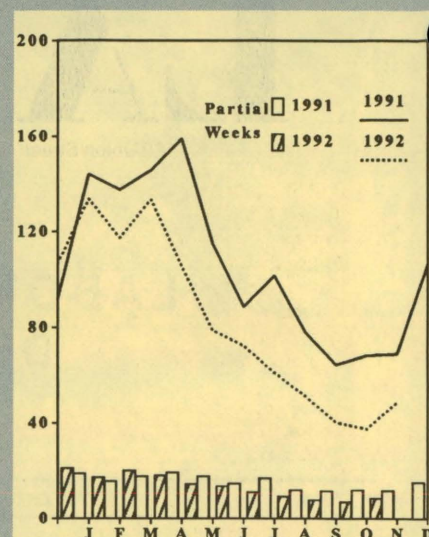
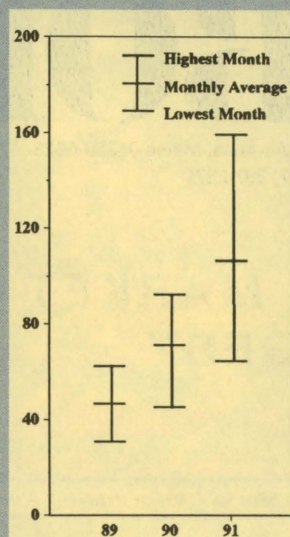
Manufacturing — Manufacturing employment declined by 900 between 1991 and 1992. The largest losses were in the high-paying transportation equipment (which includes shipbuilding) and paper and allied products industries, which suffered losses of 1,300 and 500 jobs, respectively. Other job losses occurred in the electrical and electronic equipment and fabricated metal products industries. Those declines were partially offset by gains in food and kindred products, textile products, apparel, and leather and leather products.

(Continued on page 2)

UI Initial Claims in Thousands



UI Intrastate Weeks Claimed in Thousands



Service-Producing Sector

Employment in the service-producing sector increased 0.4 percent, from 395,300 to 397,000. The gain of 1,700 jobs follows a loss of 8,800 service-producing sector jobs between 1990 and 1991.

Wholesale Trade — The number of jobs in wholesale trade declined for the fourth consecutive year in 1992. Most of the 1,600 jobs lost were among wholesalers of durable goods, as consumers continued to delay big ticket purchases until economic conditions improve.

Retail Trade — Retail employment was up 1,300, although employment declined over the year in five of the eight retail trade industries. The miscellaneous retail stores industry, which includes drug and sporting goods stores, catalog and mail order houses, and fuel dealers, added 1,900 jobs. Most of the gain was in sporting goods and catalog and mail order companies. Employment was up by 700 in eating and drinking places as well.

Apparel and accessory stores and food stores each reduced employment by 500. Smaller job losses occurred in building material and hardware stores, home furniture and furnishings stores, and general merchandise stores.

Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate — Larger interest rate spreads between what depository institu-

tions (banks) pay on deposits and receive from loans has improved the health of the industry in the last year. As a result, depository institutions added 400 to their payrolls after cutting 600 jobs in 1991. Payroll employment in real estate and nondepository credit institutions and securities dealers was unchanged over the year. The number of jobs in the insurance industry was also unchanged over the year, marking a departure from recent years when employment has grown rapidly.

Services — The health services and motion picture, amusement, and recreational services industries each added 900 jobs in 1992. Growth was also recorded in membership organizations, miscellaneous services, and hotels and lodging places. Jobs were lost in the personal, educational, and social services industries, as well as in the engineering, accounting, research, management and related services industry.

Government — The number of government jobs declined by 500 in 1992. Most of that loss was at the federally-owned Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. State government employment was unchanged, and local governments added 200 to their payrolls.

*All 1991 and 1992 numbers are January through November averages.

by Glenn A. Mills
Senior Economic Research Analyst



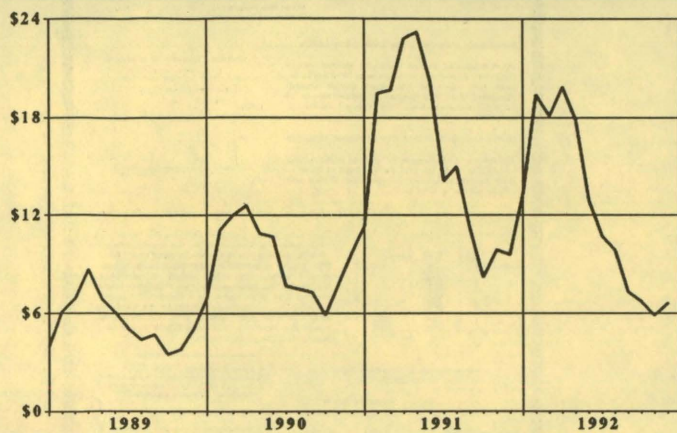
Selected Employment Security Activities



Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments

In Millions

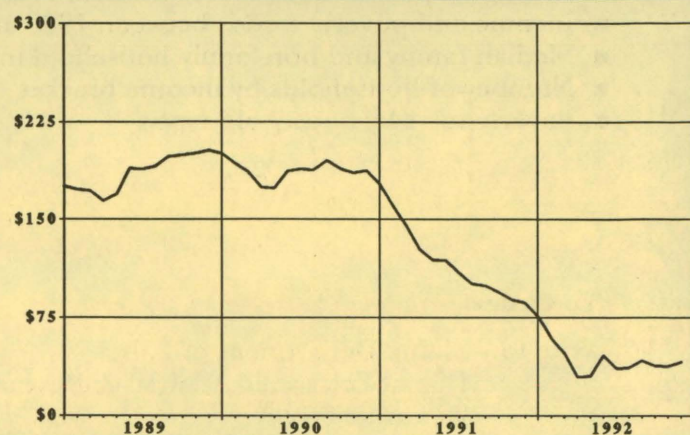
(Total includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance

In Millions

(End of Month)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	1989	1990	1991
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing.....	\$461.77	\$460.32	\$453.29	40.4	40.7	40.4	\$11.43	\$11.31	\$11.22	\$9.89	\$10.58	\$11.08
Durable Goods.....	446.22	454.92	441.16	40.2	40.8	41.0	11.10	11.15	10.76	9.59	10.20	10.61
Lumber and Wood Products.....	378.39	381.60	380.89	40.6	40.9	41.0	9.32	9.33	9.29	8.85	9.10	8.97
Primary and Fabricated Metals.....	447.11	467.09	443.31	42.3	44.4	42.1	10.57	10.52	10.53	9.31	9.98	10.18
Industrial Machinery and Equipment.....	541.99	556.25	520.83	41.5	42.3	41.6	13.06	13.15	12.52	11.03	11.63	12.43
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment.....	406.98	404.61	364.01	39.9	40.1	37.8	10.20	10.09	9.63	9.02	9.69	9.91
Transportation Equipment.....	534.22	551.43	541.45	38.6	39.7	42.4	13.84	13.89	12.77	10.80	11.68	12.55
Other Durable Goods.....	359.21	365.92	361.74	41.1	40.3	41.2	8.74	9.08	8.78	7.80	8.11	8.57
Nondurable Goods.....	474.21	465.20	463.60	40.6	40.7	40.0	11.68	11.43	11.59	10.16	10.93	11.48
Food and Kindred Products.....	331.30	334.52	293.60	35.7	36.4	33.1	9.28	9.19	8.87	8.01	8.56	8.76
Textile Mill Products.....	397.17	377.40	362.15	41.2	40.8	40.6	9.64	9.25	8.92	8.22	8.82	8.82
Apparel and Other Textile Products.....	272.39	311.83	255.94	33.3	36.6	35.4	8.18	8.52	7.23	7.04	7.38	7.28
Paper and Allied Products.....	738.45	722.18	722.80	45.0	44.8	44.1	16.41	16.12	16.39	14.51	15.16	16.06
Leather and Leather Products.....	307.28	298.65	299.54	39.7	39.4	38.6	7.74	7.58	7.76	6.92	7.44	7.82
Other Nondurable Goods.....	409.61	403.36	386.09	39.5	39.2	39.6	10.37	10.30	9.77	9.10	9.62	9.85
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing.....	401.28	397.28	395.52	38.0	38.2	38.4	10.56	10.40	10.30	10.53	10.63	10.45
LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA												
Manufacturing.....	394.70	391.56	392.40	41.2	41.7	41.7	9.58	9.39	9.41	8.50	9.26	9.33

Female Labor Force in Maine in Thousands

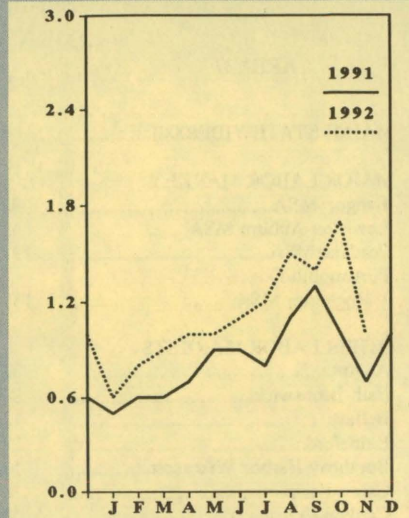
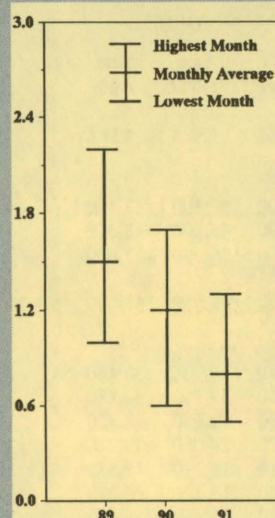
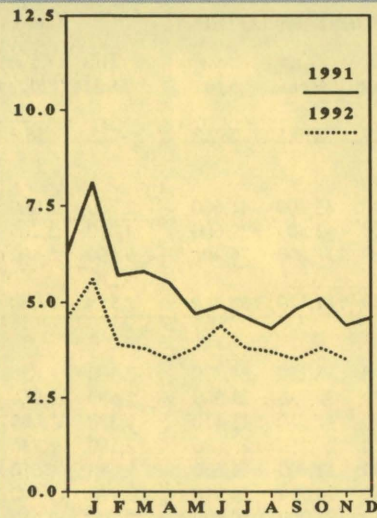
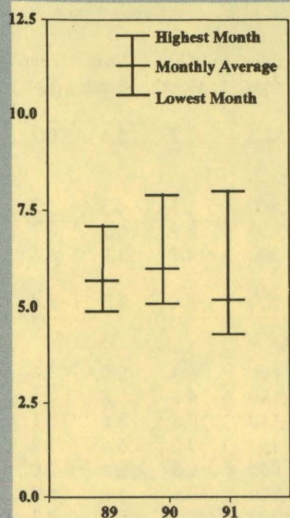
ITEM ^{1/}	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Labor Force	296.9	308.9	295.0
Unemployment (Percent)	13.6	15.6	21.5
Resident Employed	283.3	293.3	273.5

U.S. Consumer Price Index

BASE PERIOD (1982-1984 = 100) All Items (CPI-U)	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec.
	142.0	141.8	137.8	137.9
Percent Change for Past Month			+0.1%	
Percent Change from Last December			+3.0%	
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago			+3.0%	

^{1/} Current figures preliminary;

New Applications For Work in Thousands



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work (in Thousands)

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	THIS MONTH	LAST MONTH	YEAR AGO	THIS MONTH	LAST MONTH	YEAR AGO	THIS MONTH	LAST MONTH	YEAR AGO
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 1/.....	520.2	525.4	518.0	122.9	123.1	123.3	39.0	39.2	38.5
Goods Producing.....	117.9	119.4	118.3	18.5	19.4	19.8	9.6	10.1	9.7
Construction and Mining.....	22.1	23.6	21.7	5.0	5.3	4.8	1.7	1.9	1.7
Building Construction.....	5.4	6.0	5.9	1.2	1.2	1.1	n/a	n/a	n/a
Special Trade Contractors.....	12.3	12.8	11.8	3.7	3.5	3.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Manufacturing.....	95.8	95.8	96.6	13.5	14.1	15.0	7.9	8.2	8.0
Durable Goods.....	41.8	41.8	43.3	5.7	6.3	7.7	2.1	2.2	2.2
Lumber and Wood Products.....	10.5	10.6	10.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Primary and Fabricated Metals.....	3.0	2.9	3.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Industrial Machinery and Equipment.....	4.1	4.1	4.2	1.4	1.4	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
Electronic and other Elect. Equip.....	6.9	7.0	7.5	2.2	2.3	2.4	n/a	n/a	n/a
Transportation Equipment.....	12.7	12.6	13.7	(d)	(d)	(d)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other Durable Goods 2/.....	4.6	4.6	4.4	2.1	2.6	3.8	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nondurable Goods.....	54.0	54.0	53.3	7.8	7.8	7.3	5.8	6.0	5.8
Food and Kindred Products.....	7.4	7.5	7.5	2.3	2.3	2.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Textile Mill Products.....	5.6	5.6	5.7	(d)	(d)	(d)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Apparel and Other Textile Products.....	3.2	3.2	3.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Paper and Allied Products.....	16.9	16.5	17.2	(d)	(d)	(d)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Printing and Publishing.....	5.5	5.5	5.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products.....	3.3	3.2	3.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leather and Leather Products.....	10.7	11.0	10.0	1.1	1.1	0.9	1.7	1.9	1.6
Footwear (except Rubber).....	8.9	9.1	8.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other Nondurable Goods 3/.....	1.4	1.5	1.4	2.9	2.9	2.6	4.1	4.1	4.2
Service Producing.....	402.3	406.0	399.7	104.4	103.7	103.5	29.4	29.1	28.8
Transportation and Public Utilities.....	22.8	23.3	21.7	5.2	5.4	5.3	1.4	1.4	1.4
Wholesale Trade.....	21.0	21.3	22.5	8.3	8.5	9.1	2.0	2.1	1.9
Retail Trade.....	106.2	107.8	105.8	28.0	27.2	26.5	8.8	8.5	8.7
Food Stores.....	18.0	17.7	18.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Eating and Drinking Places.....	30.8	34.1	32.0	7.2	7.3	6.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate.....	25.4	25.5	24.8	12.4	12.4	12.4	2.0	2.0	2.0
Banking.....	10.0	9.9	9.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents.....	10.9	11.0	11.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Services.....	127.6	130.3	124.4	33.8	33.6	33.6	10.8	10.7	10.5
Hotels and Other Lodging Places.....	7.7	10.1	7.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Business Services.....	13.2	13.6	12.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Health Services.....	47.7	47.5	46.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Federal Government.....	16.7	16.7	17.9	2.0	1.9	1.9	0.3	0.3	0.3
State and Local Government.....	82.6	81.1	82.6	14.7	14.7	14.7	4.1	4.1	4.0
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes.....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/ Employment figures relate to full- and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/ Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 38, 39; Portland - 24, 25, 32, 33, 34, 37, 38, 39. 3/ Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 28, 29; Portland - 20, 22, 23, 26, 30; Lewiston - 20, 22, 23, 26, 27. 4/ Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. * Less than 50. (d) Nondisclosure item. Source: Nonfarm wage and salary employment by place of work and earnings, and workweek of production workers in manufacturing industries are developed by the Maine Bureau of Employment Security in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

AREA 1/	LABOR FORCE 2/			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT Number			UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE-STATEWIDE(000).....	656.1	656.4	634.6	608.7	619.5	592.3	47.3	36.8	42.3	7.2	5.6	6.7
MAJOR LABOR MARKET												
Bangor MSA.....	48,500	47,800	47,100	45,800	45,700	44,600	2,700	2,000	2,500	5.5	4.3	5.2
Lewiston-Auburn MSA.....	45,700	45,500	43,300	41,700	42,300	39,600	4,000	3,200	3,800	8.8	6.9	8.7
Portland MSA.....	137,600	136,500	131,600	131,100	131,200	125,300	6,500	5,400	6,300	4.7	3.9	4.8
Portsmouth-Dover- Rochester MSA.....	137,860	134,500	141,600	130,350	127,420	133,400	7,510	7,080	8,200	5.4	5.3	5.8
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta.....	37,310	36,980	36,460	34,910	35,150	34,270	2,400	1,830	2,190	6.4	5.0	6.0
Bath-Brunswick.....	34,060	33,380	30,880	32,410	32,130	29,500	1,650	1,260	1,380	4.8	3.8	4.5
Belfast.....	12,680	12,650	12,720	11,340	11,570	11,410	1,350	1,080	1,310	10.6	8.6	10.3
Biddeford.....	27,870	28,050	28,220	25,370	26,210	26,080	2,500	1,840	2,150	9.0	6.6	7.6
Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset.....	17,010	18,010	15,530	15,930	17,400	14,650	1,080	610	880	6.3	3.4	5.6
Calais-Eastport.....	16,720	16,170	16,210	14,960	14,780	14,910	1,770	1,390	1,300	10.6	8.6	8.0
Caribou-Presque Isle.....	23,220	23,410	22,170	20,650	21,290	19,970	2,570	2,120	2,200	11.1	9.1	9.9
Central Penobscot.....	3,220	3,090	3,200	2,920	2,860	2,940	300	230	270	9.2	7.3	8.3
Dover-Foxcroft.....	7,280	7,290	7,190	6,650	6,750	6,640	640	540	550	8.7	7.4	7.7
Ellsworth.....	27,160	28,970	26,950	24,970	27,570	25,080	2,190	1,400	1,870	8.0	4.8	6.9
Farmington.....	14,310	14,170	13,440	13,120	13,160	12,380	1,200	1,010	1,050	8.4	7.1	7.8
Fort Kent-Allagash.....	6,090	6,210	5,890	5,540	5,770	5,390	550	440	490	9.1	7.1	8.3
Greenville.....	1,300	1,320	1,330	1,170	1,210	1,200	140	110	130	10.5	8.3	9.7
Houlton.....	7,010	7,300	6,790	6,590	6,930	6,470	410	380	330	5.9	5.1	4.8
Kittery-York 3/.....	29,810	29,390	30,570	28,640	28,590	29,360	1,170	800	1,210	3.9	2.7	4.0
Lincoln-Howland.....	5,650	5,660	5,630	5,190	5,250	5,160	460	410	480	8.2	7.3	8.4
Livermore Falls.....	6,380	6,430	6,190	5,820	5,970	5,710	570	460	480	8.9	7.2	7.8
Madawaska-Van Buren.....	4,260	4,410	4,100	3,830	4,050	3,770	440	360	330	10.2	8.2	8.0
Millinocket-East Millinocket.....	4,030	4,080	4,020	3,670	3,780	3,680	360	300	340	8.9	7.4	8.6
Norway-Paris.....	12,780	12,700	11,760	11,460	11,720	10,700	1,320	980	1,060	10.3	7.7	9.0
Patten-Island Falls.....	2,760	2,920	2,630	2,490	2,680	2,390	270	250	250	9.7	8.4	9.4
Rockland.....	20,710	20,800	19,650	19,440	19,890	18,530	1,270	910	1,120	6.1	4.4	5.7
Rumford.....	9,950	9,280	8,980	9,020	8,590	8,140	930	700	840	9.3	7.5	9.4
Sanford.....	17,080	16,840	16,480	15,420	15,570	15,080	1,660	1,260	1,400	9.7	7.5	8.5
Sebago Lakes Region.....	11,790	13,030	12,730	10,850	12,280	11,850	950	750	880	8.0	5.7	6.9
Skowhegan.....	25,580	25,800	24,280	23,030	23,720	21,890	2,550	2,080	2,390	10.0	8.0	9.8
Southwest Penobscot.....	10,730	11,160	11,060	9,240	10,090	9,890	1,500	1,070	1,170	13.9	9.6	10.6
Waterville.....	27,490	27,080	27,570	25,520	25,380	25,760	1,970	1,700	1,800	7.2	6.3	6.5
OTHER												
NEW ENGLAND STATES (000)												
Connecticut.....	n/a	n/a	1,796.8	n/a	n/a	1,680.9	n/a	n/a	115.9	n/a	n/a	6.5
Massachusetts.....	3,113.0	3,077.0	3,132.2	2,855.0	2,842.0	2,881.9	257.0	235.0	250.3	8.3	7.6	8.0
New Hampshire.....	641.1	629.4	624.3	594.9	585.0	578.3	46.3	44.4	46.0	7.2	7.0	7.4
Rhode Island.....	520.3	513.5	512.3	478.9	472.5	468.4	41.4	41.0	43.9	8.0	8.0	8.6
Vermont.....	326.2	317.9	315.6	307.2	302.2	297.9	19.0	15.7	17.7	5.8	4.9	5.6
NEW ENGLAND STATES (000)----	7,110.0	7,013.0	7,055.0	6,543.0	6,524.0	6,515.0	567.0	489.0	540.0	8.0	7.0	7.7
UNITED STATES (000)-----	127,087	126,846	125,396	118,239	118,246	117,110	8,848	8,600	8,286	7.0	6.8	6.6

Footnotes

- 1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas are by place of residence and are not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data exclude members of the Armed Forces. Data are rounded for publishing purposes. Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding. MSA - Metropolitan Statistical Area. n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.
- 2/ Current figures preliminary; last month and year ago figures revised.
- 3/ Kittery-York is the eight-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.
- Source: These data are developed by the Maine Bureau of Employment Security in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of continued-week claimants*	10,671	8,893	15,084	1,521	1,471	2,381	812	734	1,334

Continued-week claimants are less partials for week including the 12th of the month.

JUST RELEASED

1990 Income and Poverty Highlights

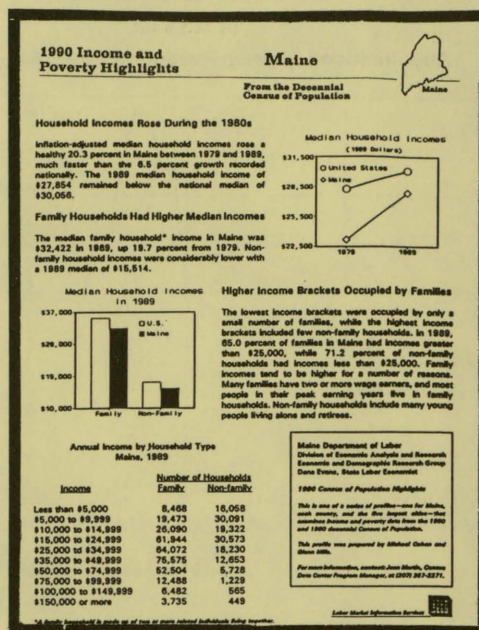
Profiles from the Decennial Census of Population

Includes:

- Individual profiles for Maine and each county
- Income and poverty trends between 1980 and 1990
- Median family and non-family household incomes
- Number of households by income bracket
- Poverty rates by household type

To Order:

write to: Maine Department of Labor
Div. of Economic Analysis & Research
20 Union Street
Augusta, ME 04330-6826



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